I. Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A method of collecting vehicle operation data from a vehicle for later transmission to a remote monitoring recipient in a manner to minimize the bandwidth requirements for the later transmission, comprising the steps of:

    - providing a vehicle on-board computing device;

    - providing a number of data acquisition modules, each to measure one or more operating characteristics of the vehicle, the operating characteristics corresponding to current values of a set of managed objects;

    - interfacing the vehicle on-board computing device with each of the data acquisition modules;

    - configuring the vehicle on-board computing device to:

        a) form a diagnostic information base for receiving and storing values for each of the managed objects from each of the corresponding data acquisition modules;

        b) assemble an event report based on information contained in the diagnostic information base; and

3

c) package the event report in a protocol data unit according to an SNMP-derived protocol.

2. (Original) A method as defined in claim 1 wherein the operating characteristics include GPS position, engine speed, road speed, or engine temperature, or an OBD-II parameter related to vehicle emissions.

3. (Original) A method as defined in claim 2 wherein the OBD-II parameter includes misfire detection.

4. (Original) A method as defined in claim 1, further comprising the step of enabling the vehicle on-board computing device to:

a) establish a data link with the remote monitoring recipient; and

b) convey the protocol data unit over the data link.

5. (Original) A method as defined in claim 4, further comprising the step of enabling the remote monitoring recipient to issue a GET protocol data unit to retrieve the current values for a specific set of managed objects from the vehicle on-board computing device.

6. (Original) A method as defined in claim 5 further comprising the step of enabling the remote monitoring recipient to wait for an acknowledgement to the GET protocol data unit by the vehicle on-board computing device.

7. (Original) A method as defined in claim 4, further comprising the step enabling the vehicle on-board computing device to issue a TRAP protocol data unit to report a

4

vehicular event.

8. (Original) A method as defined in claim 7 further comprising the step of enabling the vehicle on-board computing device to:

   a) store threshold values or a reporting interval for each vehicular event; and

   b) issue each TRAP protocol data unit, either when a threshold value has been exceeded or at a corresponding reporting interval.

9. (Original) A method as defined in claim 8 wherein the TRAP protocol data unit reports a GPS position.

10. (Original) A method as defined in claim 4, further comprising the step of issuing an INFORM protocol data unit from the vehicle to report an exceptional vehicular event.

11. (Original) A method as defined in claim 10, further comprising the step of enabling the vehicle on-board computing device to:

   a) store any one of a plurality of specified exceptional vehicular events in the diagnostic information base, including one or more regulatory exceptions, maintenance exceptions or operational exceptions; and

   b) issue the INFORM protocol data unit when any one of the specified events occurs.

12. (Original) A method as defined in claim 11 wherein the INFORM protocol data unit is sent as a result of a

5

regulatory threshold level being exceeded.

13. (Original) A method as defined in claim 11 further comprising the step of enabling the vehicular onboard computing device to wait for a confirmation that a previous INFORM protocol data unit has been logged in a data base by the remote monitoring recipient.

14. (Original) A method as defined in claim 13, further comprising the step of re-transmitting the INFORM protocol data unit in the absence of a confirmation that a previous INFORM protocol data unit has been logged in a database by the remote monitoring recipient.

15. (Original) A method as defined in claim 4, further comprising the step of enabling the remote monitoring recipient to issue a SET protocol data unit to the vehicle on-board computing device to set one or more of the managed objects.

16. (Original) A method as defined in claim 4, wherein the data link is wireless and includes an radio frequency band under the IEEE 802.11 standard, a satellite RF packet network or a terrestrial RF packet network.

17. (Original) A method as defined in claim 4 wherein the protocol data unit is a REQUEST protocol data unit, the protocol data unit excluding the ERROR STATUS and ERROR INDEX fields of the SNMP protocol.

18. (Original) A method as defined in claim 4 wherein the protocol data unit excludes the LENGTH field of each variable binding of the SNMP protocol.

6

19.   (Original) A method of conveying vehicle operation data from a vehicle to a remote monitoring recipient, comprising the steps of:

- establishing a data link between the vehicle and the remote monitoring recipient;

- collecting vehicle operation data from data sources in the vehicle;

- packaging the vehicle operation data in a data packet using protocol derived from SNMP; and

- conveying the data packet over the data link, the protocol data unit being issued in response to a request by the remote monitoring recipient and containing both the request and requested values in the request and being encapsulated within a single message and in a single unfragmented network packet.

20.   (Original) A computer implemented system for conveying vehicle operation data from a vehicle to a remote monitoring recipient, comprising:

- an vehicle on-board computing device in communication with a number of vehicle operation data sources in the vehicle;

- a wireless communications device for establishing a wireless data link with the vehicle on-board computing device and the remote monitoring recipient;

- the vehicle on-board computing device being enabled to

7

package the vehicle operation data in a data packet using protocol derived from SNMP for transmission to the remote monitoring recipient over the wireless data link.